

For Immediate Release

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**Several US Children Among Worldwide Heroes for Inspirational Fundraising Efforts
with Céline Dion**

Stories of 12 Young Heroes Documented in Book, Greeting Cards and Calendar

(Raleigh, NC)— (October 29, 2008) – Faces of Hope, an organization whose objective is to celebrate life and raise money to assist children’s needs, has announced the release of a new book, entitled “*12 Heroes Among Us*,” that shares the story of 12 courageous children from around the world and their amazing stories of courage and survival. This inspirational book shares the children’s amazing testimonials of hope, courage and survival and captures their unique gathering with Grammy award-winning singer and humanitarian Céline Dion in Montreal to celebrate their lives and raise money for children around the world.

Four children from the US and eight others from around the world, including Canada, were selected as the focus of this year’s “Faces of Hope,” a year-long celebration of life. In addition to the book, Faces of Hope has also released a family calendar, dedicating one month to each of the children. Both the book and the calendar capture the spirit and heart of these young heroes along with Céline in a collection of beautiful photos. With the same inspirational theme, Hallmark® has joined forces with Faces of Hope to proudly offer motivational greeting cards and seasonal musical cards as well.

North Carolina resident Anna Williamson, who can be found on the book’s cover with Dion, has lived with spina bifida, a birth defect that typically results in paralysis and other complications. With a radical surgery performed while still in the womb, Williamson is now a growing eight year old who has exceeded the expectations of the medical community. Other young heroes featured have overcome equally traumatic experiences including horrific vehicle accidents, surviving violence and the deaths of their parents in natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina and the Indonesian tsunami.

As part of the launch of the book several of the 12 children shared their amazing stories along with Céline on the Oprah Winfrey Show which aired on Tuesday, October 28, 2008. Proceeds from the products will benefit different children’s causes supported by Céline Dion and UNICEF.

To learn more about the book, calendar or greeting cards please visit www.facesofhope2008.com.

About Faces of Hope

Faces of Hope is a series of international events whose objective is to celebrate life. This year, the organization has chosen to underscore the courage of 12 children from nine countries throughout the world. These 12 children have survived incredible dramas, and today they are coping well and want to share their experiences with other young people and their families. As in past years, the Faces of Hope team has had the unique opportunity to be able to count on Céline Dion to realize these events. These stories of extraordinary courage, the breathtaking exclusive photos of Céline with our little heroes, and the ways to help Faces of Hope continue the activities and help children in need. Proceeds from the products will benefit different children’s causes supported by Céline Dion and UNICEF. For more information about Faces of Hope and to view products for purchase, please visit www.facesofhope2008.com.

About Herbie Fund

Established in 1979 to assist one child in need, the Herbie Fund is a volunteer-based fundraising organization dedicated to helping children around the world receive life-saving or life-altering surgeries at The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. To date, the Herbie Fund has proudly assisted more than 600 children from close to 90 countries. The goal of the Herbie Fund is to continue to deliver highly specialized medical treatment to children from countries where this care is not available. Children are selected based on the severity of their medical needs and their lack of access to specialized medical care in their home country. For more information or to make a donation, please visit www.herbiefund.com

About UNICEF

UNICEF is the world's leader for children, working in 156 countries and territories to save, protect and enhance the lives of girls and boys. UNICEF supports child health and nutrition, promotes quality basic education, protects children from violence, exploitation and AIDS, and is the world's largest provider of vaccines for developing countries. A global leader in emergencies with six decades of on-the-ground experience, UNICEF saves and rebuilds children's lives in natural disasters and conflict. UNICEF is funded entirely by voluntary contributions from individuals, businesses, foundations, schools, associations and governments.

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